

EXHIBIT 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

WILLIAM ROBERT BILL,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	Civil Action
)	
TROOPER VICTOR J.)	No. 05-154
STERNBY,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

- - - - -

COUNSEL PRESENT:

For the Plaintiff:	Kane & Silverman, P.C.
	by Steven C. Feinstein,
	Esq.
For the Defendant:	Office of the Attorney
	General
	by Mary Lynch Friedline,
	Esq.

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DEPOSITION OF VICTOR STERNBY

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LAWYER'S NOTES

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DEPOSITION OF VICTOR STERNBY

the Defendant herein, called by the Plaintiff
for examination, taken pursuant to the
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, by and before
Linda D. Hughes, a Professional Court Reporter
and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania, at the Offices of the Attorney
General, 6th Floor Manor Complex, Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, February 28, 2005, at
11:20 a.m.

ALSO PRESENT: William R. Bill

I N D E X

WITNESS: VICTOR STERNBY

E X A M I N A T I O N :

PAGE

BY MR. FEINSTEIN

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E X H I B I T S :

STERNBY EXHIBIT NO. 1

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STERNBY EXHIBIT NOS. 2 AND 3

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P R O C E E D I N G S

VICTOR STERNBY

the Defendant herein, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

Q. Good morning, Trooper Sternby.

A. Sternby.

Q. I apologize. I am terrible with names, so I am going to get it wrong like 1,000 times. Please accept my apologies. There is no disrespect intended.

My name is Steven Feinstein. I represent William Robert Bill in his claim under a 1983 action that was brought as a result of an incident that took place on February 22, 2003, stemming from an arrest that you and your partner made of him for DUI on that night.

You are here for a deposition today. I am going to be asking you a series of questions. Has your deposition ever been taken before?

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2 A. In this case?

3 Q. No. Just generally. Has it ever
4 been taken in any case?

5 A. I don't believe so.

6 Q. I am going to ask you a series of
7 questions. It will make my job easier, your
8 attorney's job easier and the court reporter's
9 job easier if, first and foremost, you please
10 allow me to finish asking my question before
11 you begin to answer.

12 I ask that for two reasons. The
13 young lady to the left is a court reporter.
14 She cannot take down two people at the same
15 time. It makes her job difficult. We want to
16 make sure the transcript is clear.

17 The second thing is I want to make
18 sure you have heard my entire question before
19 answering to make sure you are answering the
20 question I am asking. Please don't anticipate
21 my question.

22 The second thing is please keep all
23 your answers verbal. If the answer is yes,
24 please say yes as opposed to a nod of the head
25 or gesture. Similarly, try to stay away from

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2 things like uh-huh or um-hum. It may be clear
3 to us today what you intended to say; but when
4 we go back and look at the deposition, those
5 two things sound too similar. If the answer is
6 yes, please say yes as opposed to uh-huh.

7 Please stay away from guessing at
8 the answers to questions. There may be things
9 that you don't have a specific recollection of.
10 It is perfectly fine to tell me that you don't
11 remember or you don't know the answer to a
12 question.

13 If you are estimating the answer to
14 a question, please let me know it is an
15 estimate so I take it in that vein as opposed
16 to something as being a measurement of some
17 kind.

18 I don't know how long we are going
19 to be here. If at any time you want to take a
20 break to consult with your attorney or to get a
21 drink or use the rest room or anything along
22 those lines, please let me know; and I will
23 accommodate anything that is reasonable.

24 If you don't understand one of my
25 questions, please let me know that. If you

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2 don't hear one of my questions, please let me
3 know that as well. I will rephrase or repeat a
4 question as many times as necessary until you
5 are confident you have heard and understood the
6 question. Are my instructions to you clear
7 today?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Are you today under the influence of
10 any medication or drugs which might affect your
11 ability to remember the events of February 22,
12 2003?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Are you under the effects of any
15 drugs or medication that might affect your
16 ability to testify?

17 A. No.

18 Q. What is your first name, sir?

19 A. Victor.

20 Q. Victor Sternby; is that correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Who are you currently employed by?

23 A. Pennsylvania State Police.

24 Q. How old are you?

25 A. 40.

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2 Q. How long have you been with the
3 Pennsylvania State Police?

4 A. Since January 7, 1991.

5 Q. So that is a period of just over
6 15 years?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Before that, where were you
9 employed?

10 A. I had had several different jobs
11 before that. Basically, self-employed
12 immediately prior to my entering the Academy.

13 Q. Were any of your prior jobs law
14 enforcement related?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Before you were hired by the
17 Pennsylvania State Police, did you go through a
18 training period?

19 A. Not before.

20 Q. So when you were hired, that is when
21 they put you into the training period?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Is there an Academy of some kind
24 that you go to?

25 A. Yes. I went to the Academy in

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2 Hershey.

3 Q. You become employed by them before
4 you go through the Academy and then you become
5 a full-fledged trooper when you complete?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Are you under some sort of
8 probationary period or anything while you are
9 in the Academy?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Can you tell me what the training
12 consists of at the Academy?

13 A. At the time I went I believe it was
14 23 weeks. They covered all the aspects of
15 police work as far as Vehicle Code,
16 Crimes Code, firearms training, physical
17 fitness.

18 Q. When did you graduate from the
19 Academy, do you remember?

20 A. I believe it was May 15, 1991.

21 Q. Do you get any kind of certificate
22 or affidavit or diploma or something indicating
23 that you graduated?

24 A. Yes, I believe we did.

25 Q. Do you get ranked in your class or

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2 is there any way to differentiate the better
3 Academy students, for lack of a better term,
4 than other people or whenever you graduate is
5 it the same?

6 A. They have a small group of awards
7 for like best firearms score or best academic
8 score. I am not sure of any ranking that was
9 made public of where exactly in the class you
10 finished.

11 Q. Is it possible to be thrown out of
12 the Academy while you are there?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What would be some of the
15 circumstances that a person might be thrown out
16 while they are in the Academy?

17 A. Illegal activities, infractions of
18 the rules depending on the severity and how
19 many times. We had people that were thrown out
20 for having a point where they were possibly
21 capable of receiving the minimum academic
22 scores on the final in regards to how they did
23 on the remainder of the test. They were
24 situations like that.

25 Q. Is there a written test you are

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2 required to pass before you graduate from the
3 Academy?

4 A. There are a series of written tests
5 the entire time you are in the Academy, and
6 then there is a final test shortly before
7 graduation.

8 Q. What does that cover?

9 A. Everything that you had studied up
10 until that point.

11 Q. When you graduate from the Academy,
12 are you given a certain rank or position with
13 the state police?

14 A. Just trooper.

15 Q. Are there different grades of
16 trooper?

17 A. Not as of this time.

18 Q. Are you a trooper now?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Is it fair to say your position
21 today is the same as your position was 15 years
22 ago?

23 A. From the time I graduated the
24 Academy until now, yes.

25 Q. There are positions above trooper;

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2 correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. They are officers?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What would those ranks be?

7 A. Corporal, sergeant, lieutenant,
8 captain, major, lieutenant colonel, colonel.

9 Q. The colonel is the highest position
10 in the state troopers?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. I am sorry. The highest position in
13 the state police but your answer is yes?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. When you graduate from the Academy,
16 are you on a probationary period of any kind?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. How long does that probationary
19 period last?

20 A. I believe that is a year.

21 Q. What is your understanding of what
22 the probationary period means?

23 A. I am not real certain on that. I
24 know it is a period where they follow your
25 actions and your work to see if you are

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2 competent as a police officer, but I don't know
3 the specifics of what all is involved or what
4 they look at.

5 Q. Are you given some sort of formal
6 indication that your probationary period is
7 over and you are no longer under probation?

8 A. I don't recall anything. I remember
9 somebody saying this is your last performance
10 review or something, but I don't recall any
11 type of certificate. There is no ceremony or
12 anything.

13 Q. Between the time you graduated from
14 the Academy and February 22, 2003, had there
15 been any complaints for any disciplinary
16 problems against you during that period of
17 time?

18 A. Could you narrow that down a little
19 bit more?

20 Q. Between the time you graduated from
21 the Academy and February 22, 2003, did anybody
22 ever file suit against you alleging that you
23 had violated their civil rights?

24 A. Not that I am aware of.

25 Q. Between the time you graduated and

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2 February 22, 2003, did you ever receive any
3 official reprimands for anything that you had
4 done on the job?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Can you tell me how many times that
7 took place?

8 A. It depends on exactly -- there are
9 different levels of reprimands. We have a
10 progressive punishment system.

11 It could start with a supervisor
12 telling you, hey, don't do that again up to
13 where they do a formal what is commonly known
14 as internal affairs investigation where they
15 would actually discipline someone.

16 I had one occasion where I was
17 actually disciplined for a situation where I
18 went to an under-age drinking party which was
19 outdoors.

20 As we approached, the only people
21 that were left at that party we were able to
22 ascertain were over the age to be legally
23 consuming alcoholic beverages.

24 It wasn't a loud party bothering the
25 neighbors or anything like that, but later on

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2 one of the subjects got home that was under
3 age, got caught by his parents, said that we
4 were there and didn't do anything. They lodged
5 a complaint, and they did an investigation on
6 that.

7 Q. what kind of reprimand did you
8 receive?

9 A. I believe I lost eight hours of
10 vacation time.

11 Q. Did that go all the way through to
12 internal affairs?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 (Short recess taken.)

15 MR. FEINSTEIN: would you read
16 back the last question and answer.

17 (Question and answer read
18 back.)

19 Q. Is that the only time you have been
20 disciplined by the Pennsylvania State Police?

21 A. In that manner, yes.

22 Q. When you say "in that manner," what
23 do you mean?

24 A. Well, for instance, if I would do a
25 report incorrectly, I would get a discrepancy

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2 notice or something saying it was incorrect. I
3 have received things such as that.

4 Q. Do you consider that a disciplinary
5 reprimand?

6 A. Not really but I didn't want to look
7 like I was trying to hide anything.

8 Q. Trust me. I don't care about
9 discrepancies in reports unless they were
10 intentional. I am going to assume that you
11 haven't intentionally done that.

12 A. I have not, no, sir. I have not
13 been disciplined for anything such as that.

14 Q. Does the Pennsylvania State Police
15 have like a motto of some kind, like a slogan
16 like some police are like "To serve and
17 protect"? Do the Pennsylvania State Police
18 have anything like that?

19 A. Yes. I believe they have the slogan
20 "The First and the Finest."

21 Q. The First and the Finest. I want to
22 talk about your training a little bit more.
23 while you were in training and on the job, were
24 you trained in how to identify somebody who is
25 driving a motor vehicle or operating a motor

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2 vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other
3 forms of intoxicants?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did you have formal training on that
6 in the Academy?

7 A. I had some in the Academy, and I
8 took a class I believe in 1997 NHTSA, National
9 Highway Traffic Safety Administration,
10 approved.

11 Q. What are the types of things you
12 look for when you suspect somebody is driving a
13 vehicle under the influence of alcohol?

14 A. While they are still driving?

15 Q. I know that is not exactly the facts
16 of this case. Let's focus actually on a fact
17 pattern that is similar to this case.

18 For the purposes of my question we
19 will make certain assumptions, and we are not
20 talking specifically about my client.

21 If you would come across a vehicle
22 that is stopped and there are people inside
23 sleeping such as happened here, what would you
24 be looking for under those circumstances to see
25 if in your estimation somebody was driving a

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2 vehicle or operating a vehicle while they are
3 intoxicated?

4 A. Signs would include bloodshot eyes,
5 slurred speech, poor coordination, short-term
6 memory loss, odor of alcoholic beverages, any
7 indication of drug use or paraphernalia,
8 including pill bottles or pipes, something
9 along those lines, difficulty in retrieving
10 documents, not able to divide attention between
11 basic and difficult tasks.

12 Q. would you also include things such
13 as dishevelled clothing and --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- disorientation?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. what are your instructions or what
18 is your understanding that you are supposed to
19 do if you come across somebody who is asleep in
20 a car and you suspect they are intoxicated?

21 A. The first thing we do would be to
22 position my patrol vehicle in a way to make the
23 scene as safe as possible.

24 Q. Let me stop you there. what do you
25 mean by that?

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2 A. Well, I wouldn't want traffic to
3 come along and have an accident occur or
4 someone get hit by a passing motorist.

5 Q. What are you doing as far as your
6 car is concerned? Pulling it off to the side
7 of the road?

8 A. Depending on the location of the
9 vehicle, I would put it in a position that
10 would basically leave an area that would be
11 blocked from a vehicle coming from behind or
12 something to leave a safe area in front.

13 Q. So an oncoming vehicle would have to
14 go around your car so there would not be any
15 problem with any pedestrian in the area of the
16 stopped vehicle?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. I lost my thought pattern.

19 MS. LYNCH FRIEDLINE: Where
20 were we on the question?

21 Q. The question as I recall it was what
22 is it your understanding you are supposed to do
23 if you suspect that somebody is under the
24 influence if they are in a stopped vehicle?

25 A. I would, of course, approach the

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2 vehicle and try to make contact with anyone.

3 If they were asleep, I would try to wake them.

4 I would try to ascertain if we have
5 a situation where someone was just tired, if
6 they were intoxicated, if they are under the
7 influence of some type of controlled substance
8 or possibly having some type of medical
9 emergency such as diabetes, sugar shock,
10 something along those lines.

11 Once I rule out that there is no
12 medical needs at the point, then, I would try
13 to differentiate between being tired or being
14 intoxicated or under the influence, looking for
15 various signs of intoxication or evidence of
16 intoxication, empty beer cans, beer bottles,
17 whiskey bottles, something along those lines.

18 If I have reason to believe there is
19 some sort of intoxication, then, at that point
20 I would, of course, at some point while I am
21 doing these other tasks be looking for
22 identification of the occupants, vehicle
23 registration, insurance, that type of
24 documentation.

25 Then eventually I would begin, if I

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2 believed there was some type of intoxication,
3 to go through a battery of tests to try to
4 determine what that intoxication level might
5 be, if it was within legal ranges over the
6 legal limit.

7 Q. Let's break that down a little bit.
8 Is it fair to say when you are talking about
9 trying to determine whether somebody is
10 intoxicated or not, you are looking at the
11 visual cues that you discussed a few minutes
12 ago, disorientation, bloodshot eyes, the aroma
13 of alcohol and things of that nature that you
14 just discussed before to make a preliminary
15 determination in your mind as to whether this
16 person might be intoxicated? Is that a fair
17 statement?

18 A. I believe so, yes.

19 Q. Is it fair to say that once you have
20 made a determination that you believe it is
21 possible the person is intoxication, are those
22 tests commonly known as field sobriety tests?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. In your capacity as a trooper, is it
25 fair to say that you have made some arrests for

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2 DUI other than the one that was made on
3 February 22, 2003?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Can you estimate how many you had
6 made prior to that date or would it be in the
7 hundreds or too high to count?

8 A. Prior to that date, it would be, I
9 would estimate, probably over 200.

10 Q. In the course of the 200 DUIs,
11 assuming that a field sobriety test is
12 appropriate under the circumstances, do you do
13 the same field sobriety test every time?

14 A. Yes. There are four standard field
15 sobriety tests we are trained to use. For
16 instance, I have had people in a wheelchair
17 that, obviously, can't do one like stand, walk
18 and turn, and they don't have enough lung
19 capacity to use a breath machine. I might use
20 something out of the norm then, but that is
21 unusual.

22 Q. Can you describe the four tests for
23 me?

24 A. The first test I would use would be
25 the horizontal gaze nystagmus test which is

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2 used to look for nystagmus in a person's eyes.

3 Q. What is the next one?

4 A. The next one is the walk and turn
5 and the one-leg stand test which are physical
6 divided attention tests, what they call
7 psychomotor tests.

8 The last test, if I have it
9 available, would be to use a preliminary breath
10 testing machine which would possibly confirm to
11 me the validity of my prior three tests.

12 Q. Now, the preliminary breathalyzer
13 test, to your knowledge is that admissible
14 evidence in court on a DUI case?

15 A. In a trial situation I believe it is
16 admissible for use of probable cause.

17 Q. In your experience prior to
18 February 22, 2003, did you ever come across
19 somebody who was so intoxicated that you did
20 not feel it was even necessary to either do
21 field sobriety tests or what is called a
22 preliminary blood test, a PBT?

23 Have you ever come across anybody
24 who you felt was so intoxicated that you didn't
25 feel it was necessary to do a field sobriety

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2 test or a PBT?

3 A. I can't say for certain. There are
4 times when I haven't done field sobriety tests
5 because they weren't capable of doing them. I
6 don't recall on all the situations if I had a
7 PBT available or not.

8 Q. We will talk more about the PBT in a
9 few minutes. Let's go back to the field
10 sobriety test. It is your testimony there are
11 times when you did not do a field sobriety test
12 before arresting on a DUI?

13 A. There are times I haven't done
14 them -- it is not I just go up and say, "This
15 is it. You are under arrest." There is a
16 period of explanation and to see if they are
17 capable of doing them.

18 At some point during the test, they
19 can be terminated. I have had people as far as
20 say on the one leg stand where we get to one or
21 two seconds. They have tried several times.
22 It is not worth going on with this test any
23 further at that point.

24 Q. Did you ever make a determination
25 that you recall in any of your prior DUI cases

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2 where you felt it was unsafe for an individual
3 to do a field sobriety test for any reason?

4 A. You mean prior to them attempting
5 them?

6 Q. We will break it down into two
7 different categories. In your experience prior
8 to February 22, 2003, did you ever have a
9 situation where you felt it was unsafe for the
10 person to do the field sobriety test at all
11 based upon the level of intoxication or other
12 circumstances that may be present at the time?

13 A. I don't believe so.

14 Q. Prior to February 22, 2003, did you
15 ever feel it was unsafe for somebody to do a
16 field sobriety test or make that determination
17 while they were doing the field sobriety test?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Can you recall any specific
20 circumstances under which you made that
21 determination?

22 A. I remember occasions where people
23 were attempting to do the walk-and-turn test,
24 which is commonly known as the heel-to-toe
25 test, where they continued stumbling to the

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2 side, and I would be afraid they would step
3 into traffic or fall into something, so I would
4 terminate the test prior to its completion.

5 Q. How would you terminate the test?

6 A. I would just tell them to stop and
7 move to the side of the road or between the
8 vehicles or depending on the circumstances of
9 how we were situated to a safe area and then I
10 would go on to the next test.

11 Q. Did you ever physically stop a
12 person from doing a field sobriety test because
13 you felt it was dangerous, where you actually
14 had to touch the person or grab the person and
15 get them to stop doing it?

16 A. I don't recall any instances off the
17 top of my head.

18 Q. Are you familiar with a portion -- I
19 think it is in the Criminal Code -- called
20 public intoxication?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. Are you familiar with what the
23 definition of public intoxication is?

24 A. To the best of my recollection, it
25 is worded something along the lines of a person

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2 who is manifestly under the influence of
3 intoxicating beverage or substance to a point
4 where they would be a hazard to themselves or
5 the public.

6 Q. That is good because that is
7 actually an almost quote as to what the statute
8 is. I am impressed.

9 I want to start to focus your
10 attention on the events of February 22, 2003.
11 Actually, let's go back to that statute for a
12 second.

13 What is your understanding or your
14 belief as to somebody who is so intoxicated or
15 the level of intoxication they are a hazard to
16 themselves?

17 MS. LYNCH FRIEDLINE: This is
18 in connection with the statute on public
19 intoxication?

20 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes. I am
21 going back to that.

22 Q. What is your understanding as to
23 what that means?

24 A. A person who using poor enough
25 judgment that they are placing themselves in

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2 harm's way, perhaps stumbling down the middle
3 of the road while there is traffic, continually
4 falling over, engaging in some activity.

5 We had a guy trying to ride a land
6 luge, like a toboggan-type thing, down a busy
7 hill on a Friday night who ended up actually
8 crashing at the bottom into a bridge abutment.

9 I would think anything like that
10 could be reasonably presumed to result in
11 significant harm.

12 Q. I want to, if we can, focus on one
13 aspect of what you said which was falling over,
14 stumbling, falling over.

15 Do you have any instructions or
16 training in what you are supposed to do if you
17 come across somebody who is so intoxicated that
18 there is a risk of them falling down?

19 MS. LYNCH FRIEDLINE: Are we on
20 public intoxication or DUI?

21 MR. FEINSTEIN: We have been
22 concentrating on the public intoxication
23 statute because the DUI statute has a different
24 standard.

25 MS. LYNCH FRIEDLINE: I just

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2 want to make sure I am on the right vein.

3 A. I don't think specifically it
4 addresses the issue of falling down; but if a
5 person is publicly intoxicated, you would
6 remove them from the situation and release them
7 to a person over the age of 18 who is not
8 intoxicated themselves if they are willing to
9 take possession of them.

10 The other option would be to take
11 them before a district judge for immediate
12 preliminary hearing if you were so inclined to
13 charge them with the statute.

14 Q. Do you believe if you come across a
15 person under those circumstances that you have
16 an obligation to take them out of the position
17 of danger and put them into a position of
18 safety?

19 A. Ultimately, yes.

20 Q. One question about the PBT and then
21 we are going to head to February 22, 2003. Can
22 a PBT be given while a person is seated?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do you have any specific
25 recollection of the events of February 22,

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2 2003, as they relate to William Robert Bill?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Based upon recollection, actual
5 recollection you have of the events or based
6 upon a review of documents you did in
7 preparation for the deposition?

8 A. Some of each.

9 Q. May I ask what you reviewed for the
10 purposes of the deposition?

11 A. I read over my intoxication report
12 and reviewed the videotape.

13 Q. You do have an independent
14 recollection of that night?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Were you alone or were you with
17 somebody else that night?

18 A. I was with Trooper Dennis.

19 Q. You were in the same patrol car?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who was driving?

22 A. I believe I was.

23 Q. How was it that you were called to
24 the scene of where Mr. Bill was resting?

25 A. Somebody called either the 911

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2 center or our station directly. I am not sure.
3 Then we were dispatched to that location from
4 whoever was working the desk that night.

5 Q. So you were actually in the barracks
6 when you got a call then?

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. The patrol car that you were in that
9 night, was it equipped with a camera?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What kind of camera -- it doesn't
12 matter what kind of camera it was.

13 when you got to the scene, what did
14 you find?

15 A. I found a truck in a ditch. It
16 appeared that it had come to a T intersection
17 and made a right turn, but it made the right
18 turn prior to reaching the intersecting roadway
19 and turned into a snowbank.

20 Q. When you observed that, what did you
21 do next?

22 A. Activated the camera and approached
23 the vehicle and tried to make contact with the
24 occupants.

25 Q. Which side of the vehicle did you go

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2 to?

3 A. The driver's side.

4 Q. Did you look inside the vehicle?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What did you see?

7 A. I saw two occupants that appeared to
8 be asleep, one laying on top of the other.

9 Q. Did Trooper Dennis go to the other
10 side of the vehicle?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What did you do when you observed
13 two people in the vehicle sleeping?

14 A. I tried to make contact with the
15 person that was in the driver's side. I don't
16 remember if I tapped on the window or how I
17 tried to wake him first, but I did eventually
18 make contact with him.

19 Q. Is that the person we are talking
20 about today, Mr. Bill?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. You woke him up?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. When you woke him up, how did he
25 appear to you?

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2 A. A little disoriented, confused.

3 Q. What was his clothing like?

4 A. Nothing particularly unusual that I
5 recall.

6 Q. Did you look at his eyes?

7 A. I believe I did.

8 Q. What did you see?

9 A. Could I refer to my report?

10 Q. Absolutely.

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: Why don't we
12 mark that as Sternby Exhibit No. 1. That is a
13 copy?

14 MS. LYNCH FRIEDLINE: That is a
15 copy.

16 MR. FEINSTEIN: We will attach
17 that as an exhibit.

18 (Sternby Exhibit No. 1 was
19 marked for identification.)

20 A. I have noted on here his eyes were
21 bloodshot.

22 BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

23 Q. You are looking at your report. I
24 have a copy of the first page of your report.
25 Will you just confirm that is a copy of the

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2 same report?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Now, there are portions of the
5 report numbered 28 through 35. All of those
6 are related to the contact with Mr. Bill; is
7 that correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Are all of those notations made
10 before you attempted any field sobriety tests?

11 A. No, sir.

12 Q. These notations were observations
13 that you made before and during any attempted
14 field sobriety tests; is that fair to say?

15 A. These would have been before and
16 during the field sobriety tests. I wouldn't
17 have completed this form until after the field
18 sobriety tests were completed.

19 Q. I am right on the numbers. No. 28,
20 "How were you contacted?" You said it was on
21 routine patrol. Does that refresh your
22 recollection as to whether you were in the
23 barracks or on patrol at the time you got the
24 call?

25 A. It doesn't improve my memory on it.

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2 I believe I was at the station because it was
3 near the end of the shift, but I can't say for
4 sure.

5 Q. "No. 29, Strikes object," and you
6 have that box marked; and next to it it says,
7 "snowbank"?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. Is that in reference to the vehicle,
10 that it was in a snowbank?

11 A. Right. That would be the object
12 that it struck.

13 Q. "No. 30, Odor of alcoholic beverage
14 on breath." You have indicated that was
15 strong. Do you have a recollection today as to
16 whether you made that observation? Was it when
17 you woke up Mr. Bill or after you started doing
18 the field sobriety tests?

19 A. It would have had to have been, I
20 would assume at least to some extent, after he
21 was removed from the vehicle because when there
22 is another person there I can't distinguish if
23 there is an odor of alcoholic beverage
24 necessarily whose breath it was coming from.

25 I might have noticed -- I am sure I

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2 noticed in the vehicle. I don't have any
3 independent recollection of it right now --
4 that there would have been an odor of alcoholic
5 beverage in the vehicle. I would also have to
6 confirm that after he exited that vehicle.

7 Q. You would have confirmed that before
8 you started any field sobriety test because
9 that is one of the things you would be looking
10 for; right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. The next one, "Action," you marked
13 slow/sluggish and sleepy. Do you know if you
14 made those observations before you began the
15 field sobriety tests or after you started the
16 field sobriety tests?

17 A. Certainly, sleepy would have been
18 beforehand because that was one of the first
19 things I observed.

20 The slow and sluggish would have
21 been probably during the entire time period I
22 made contact with him until we terminated.

23 Q. Also you marked swaying, falling and
24 difficulty with cards. We will get to the
25 difficulty with cards in a second.

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2 The swaying, was that before or
3 during the field sobriety tests or both?

4 A. I believe that was during from what
5 I saw in the videotape yesterday.

6 Q. And falling would be?

7 A. That would be the very last thing
8 that he did.

9 Q. What does difficulty with cards
10 mean?

11 A. Difficulty in producing driver's
12 license, registration, insurance card.

13 Q. Would that have been before you
14 attempted the field sobriety tests?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Next you have unsure of footing.
17 Was that before or after the field sobriety
18 tests?

19 A. I believe that was in conjunction
20 with the swaying portion I saw in the
21 videotape. Probably unsure footing a little
22 bit when he first got out of the truck also.

23 Q. The last comment, leans/holds
24 vehicle and staggers/vehicle. Same question.
25 Is that before or after the field sobriety

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2 tests, the attempted field sobriety tests?

3 A. There again, the swaying, the unsure
4 footing, staggers and stumbles, I remember
5 seeing that on the videotape. The leans
6 on/hold on vehicle would have been before the
7 field sobriety tests based on what I saw in the
8 videotape yesterday.

9 Q. No. 32, Dress. You marked dirty and
10 dishevelled. Is it fair to say you observed
11 that before he attempted the field sobriety
12 test; is that correct?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Attitude indifferent, would that be
15 before or after?

16 A. Both.

17 Q. Section 34, Speech, you have marked
18 incoherent and slurred. Would you say that was
19 before or after the field sobriety tests?

20 A. First, I don't know if we really
21 have an after the field sobriety tests because
22 I was still in the process of getting a
23 preliminary breath testing machine when he fell
24 down. Before and during would be the only time
25 periods.

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2 The incoherent, I don't recall
3 exactly at what point I made that
4 determination. The slurred would have probably
5 be the entire time I was in contact with him.

6 Q. You also marked that he had
7 bloodshot eyes. Was that based upon the
8 initial observation after he woke up before he
9 started the field sobriety test?

10 A. I believe so.

11 Q. Then we actually get down into the
12 field sobriety tests. It says he refused to
13 try the one leg stand; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Could not follow instructions on the
16 walk and turn?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. And attempted on the horizontal
19 gaze -- can you say that for me?

20 A. Nystagmus.

21 Q. -- nystagmus -- I can't read the
22 bottom. It says not applicable?

23 A. Not applicable for the horizon gaze
24 nystagmus test. At the bottom I wrote,
25 "Attempted to get BPT and he fell."

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2 Q. Why was the horizontal gaze not
3 applicable? Did you just decide not to do it?

4 A. I don't know if I decided not to do
5 it or if I was going to do it later. I don't
6 remember exactly what my thought process was on
7 that at the time.

8 Q. Is it fair to say that you were
9 reasonably certain by the time you got to the
10 third test that Mr. Bill was too intoxicated to
11 drive a vehicle safely?

12 A. What test are you referring to?

13 Q. The three tests. You had the one
14 leg stand test, the walk and toe, and the
15 horizontal gaze test.

16 By the time you got to the
17 horizontal gaze test, were you fairly certain
18 he was too intoxicated to drive a vehicle
19 safely?

20 A. Fairly safe, yes.

21 Q. Is it fair to say before you started
22 the field sobriety tests you were pretty
23 certain he was too intoxicated to drive a
24 vehicle safely?

25 A. I don't know if that would be a fair

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2 statement. For one, I have had instances where
3 I have found people sleeping behind a vehicle
4 that had been drinking and when you first awake
5 them, they are disoriented and confused and
6 after you have had them up for five minutes or
7 so, they get their wits about themselves and
8 become perfectly capability of doing things
9 beyond that which has resulted in them not
10 being arrested.

11 The other thing is with the way I do
12 the test I don't generally form an opinion
13 until I have completed all the tests because if
14 I have already formulated my opinion there is
15 no point in continuing on with the test
16 further.

17 Q. Explain to me the circumstances of
18 what happened when Mr. Bill fell. Describe for
19 me what happened.

20 A. I had completed with the one leg
21 stand and the walk and turn test to the best of
22 what I felt was applicable at that time, and I
23 was taking him to the front of the patrol car
24 area, an area of safety and a place where also
25 he could be easily observed.

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2 Q. Did you say you were taking him to
3 the police car?

4 A. To the front of the police car.

5 Q. When you say you were taking him,
6 what do you mean you were taking him?

7 A. Escorting him, walking with him.

8 Q. Were you touching him, holding his
9 arm?

10 A. I don't believe I was.

11 Q. So you were walking next to him?

12 A. Actually, from what I saw in the
13 videotape, I was walking a little bit in front
14 of him.

15 Q. To the side of him and a little bit
16 in front?

17 A. Correct, the area where I wanted him
18 to go.

19 Q. Why did you want him to go to the
20 front of the police car?

21 A. I wanted him to wait there. It
22 would be an area that would be in reasonable
23 proximity to where I intended to be. It was an
24 area where there wouldn't be hazards from any
25 traffic that could come by. It was also an

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2 area where he would be in view of the camera to
3 observe his actions.

4 Q. You were going to go into the patrol
5 car to get the test, the PBT; correct?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you were going to leave Mr. Bill
8 alone in front of the car, the patrol car; is
9 that correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. What was to prevent Mr. Bill from
12 wandering into the middle of the street from in
13 front of the patrol car if you were going to
14 get the PBT?

15 A. Just my instructions.

16 Q. You have already indicated that
17 Mr. Bill wasn't following your instructions or
18 refusing to follow your instructions; correct?

19 A. He was having difficulty
20 understanding the instructions.

21 Q. So what made you believe that asking
22 him to stand in front of the police car would
23 be instructions that he would follow?

24 A. He hadn't shown me any indications
25 that he was going to attempt to run away. He